

MEMORANDUM

November 2, 2008

TO: Interested Parties

FROM: Chris Carlson, Biologist III

SUBJECT: Vernita Bar Redd Survey, November 2, 2008

Discussion: On Sunday, November 2, 2008 the third Vernita Bar ground redd count was conducted to determine the Initiation of Spawning for the zones below and above the 50 kcfs elevation. The Monitoring Team consisted of Mark Southern (WDFW) and Chris Carlson (GCPUD). Flows from Priest Rapids Dam at Vernita Bar were about 38 kcfs. Results of this survey are provided in the table below.

<u>Transect</u>	----- Redd Count by Flow Level (kcfs) -----						Total
	<u>(36 – 50)</u>	<u>(50 – 55)</u>	<u>(55 – 60)</u>	<u>(60 – 65)</u>	<u>(65 – 70)</u>	<u>(Above 70)</u>	<u>Number Of Redds</u>
Above A	5	0	0	0	0	0	5
A – AB	10	2	0	0	0	0	12
AB – B	24	2	0	0	0	0	26
Below B	8	2	0	0	0	0	10
C	5	0	0	0	0	0	5
Totals	52	6	0	0	0	0	58

Based on the above survey count and the Hanford Reach Fall Chinook Protection Program Agreement, the Initiation of Spawning for both the 36-50 kcfs and above the 50 kcfs zones have been established to be October 29 (the Wednesday before the weekend on which the Monitoring Team identifies five or more redds within the zone).

During last year's November 4 redd count, 29 redds were counted within the 36-50 kcfs zone, 0 redds between 50-55 kcfs elevations, 1 between 55-60 and none above the 60 kcfs elevation setting that year's Initiation of Spawning to be October 31 for the zone between 36-50 kcfs. The November 11 redd count set the Initiation of Spawning to be November 7 for the zone above 50 kcfs.

Since today's redd count set the Initiation of Spawning for both zones below and above the 50 kcfs elevation, no additional ground redd counts are required until November 23, 2008 at which time the 2008-09 Critical Elevation will be determined. Expected USGS flows during this time will be 50 kcfs.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

(VBReddCountM.doc)

c: Don Anglin	Jeff Atkinson	Bill Berry
Scott Bettin	Shane Bickford	Gerry O'Keefe
Bob Clubb	Dennis Dauble	Gary Donabauer
Sarah Morford	Russ George	NR Records
Kelly Harlan	Bob Heinith	Cathy Hlebechuk
Joe Taylor	Paul Hoffarth	Rick Klinge
Joe Lukas	Geoffrey McMichael	Robert Mueller
Greg Patton	Shane Scott	Rudd Turner
Bill Tweit	Paul Wagner	Dawn Woodward
Power Dispatch	FWWQ Team	PRD Operators
WAN Operators	James Adams	Scott Boyd
Joe Skalicky		